

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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CLASSIFICATION — DISSEMINATION CONTROLS

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NO FOREIGN DISSEM

RY CHINA

REPORT NO.

1. CHINESE COMMUNIST POSSESSION OF MIG-21 AIRCRAFT
2. CHINESE COMMUNIST AIR FORCE LACK OF TRANSPORT AND SPARE PARTS SHORTAGES

DATE DISTR. 27 SEPTEMBER 1965

PRECEDENCE ROUTINE

REFERENCES

IN 28191

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SEE BELOW

FIELD REPORT NO.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION. SOURCE GRADINGS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

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SUMMARY: DURING A JULY VISIT TO A CHINESE COMMUNIST AIR FORCE TRAINING SCHOOL NEAR PEIPING, AN INDONESIAN AIR FORCE DELEGATION WAS SHOWN MIG 21 AIRCRAFT. CHINESE COMMUNIST AIR FORCE OFFICERS SAID THE AIR FORCE WAS TROUBLED BY FUEL SHORTAGES, WHICH LIMITED PILOTS TO 6 HOURS OF FLYING TIME EACH MONTH, LACK OF TRANSPORTS, AND SPARE PART SHORTAGES, WHICH THE CHINESE WERE JUST STARTING TO REMEDY.

THE INDONESIAN AIR FORCE DELEGATION WHICH VISITED CHINA FROM

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1-25 JULY 1963 WAS SHOWN ONLY THE PILOT TRAINING SCHOOL IN THE WESTERN OUTSKIRTS OF PEIPING. AT THE SCHOOL CHINESE COMMUNIST AIR FORCE OFFICERS SAID CHINA WAS PRODUCING ITS OWN MIG 19 AND MIG 21 AIRCRAFT AND THE INDONESIAN DELEGATION WAS SHOWN A FEW MIG 21'S AT THE TRAINING BASE. THE INDONESIAN MILITARY ATTACHE, WHO ACCOMPANIED THE DELEGATION AND WHO HAD HAD SOME TRAINING IN MIG 21'S IN INDONESIA, CONFIRMED THE IDENTIFICATION OF THE AIRCRAFT AS MIG 21'S.

IN ANSWER TO THE INDONESIANS' QUESTIONS, CHINESE COMMUNIST AIR FORCE OFFICERS AT THE SCHOOL SAID THAT BECAUSE OF A SHORTAGE OF FUEL ALL CHINESE COMMUNIST AIR FORCE PILOTS LOGGED AN AVERAGE OF ONLY SIX HOURS OF ACTUAL FLYING TIME EACH MONTH. IN ADDITION THE CHINESE SAID THAT THE AIR FORCE RECEIVED A TOTAL OF 350 GRADUATES YEARLY FROM ALL ITS PILOT TRAINING SCHOOLS. THE CHINESE SAID THAT THE CHINESE COMMUNIST AIR FORCE HAD ABOUT 1,000 AIRCRAFT IN ITS INVENTORY AND THAT IT WAS PRIMARILY TROUBLED BY FUEL SHORTAGES, LACK OF SUFFICIENT TRANSPORTS AND SHORTAGES OF SPARE PARTS. THE CHINESE SAID THEY WERE TRYING TO REMEDY THE SPARE PART SHORTAGE BY JUST BEGINNING THEIR OWN PRODUCTION OF SPARE PARTS.

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